Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /062 W

------102626 200918Z /20 O P 200848Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 029 INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

AMCONSUL UDORN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 5056

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: SREF

SUBJ: INVOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF LAO REFUGEES TO LAOS

REF: A. STATE 44063, B. BANGKOK 4178 (NOTAL) C. 77 BANGKOK 23167 (NOTAL)

- 1. KAMM TOLD US THAT THE UBON GOVERNOR HAD INFORMED HIM THAT SOME 300 LAO REFUGEES HAD RETURNED TO LAOS FROM UBON PROVINCE SINCE NOVEMBER 15 (REFTEL A). REFTELS B AND C, REPEATS OF TELE-GRAMS FROM UPCOUNTRY CONSULATES, REPORTED THAT UNDETERMINED NUMBERS OF REFUGEES HAD BEEN RETURNED TO LAOS FROM ELSEWHERE IN THE NORTHEAST AND NORTH SINCE THAT DATE.
- 2. TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNHCR OFFICE IN BANGKOK WERE PRESENT IN UBON WITH KAMM WHILE THE GOVERNOR RECOUNTED HIS STORY. WHEN WE RAISED THE ISSUE WITH THE UNHCR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, HE WAS ALREADY AWARE OF IT.
- 3. THE CONSUL IN UDORN IS PREPARING AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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REPATRIATION SITUATION IN THE NORTHEAST. THE REFUGEE COORDINATOR IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT NAKHON PHANOM PROVINCE NOVEMBER 21. HE WILL BE MEETING WITH THE GOVERNOR THERE. WE WILL REPORT MORE COMPREHENSIVELY ON THE TOPIC BY FEBRUARY 24. WHITEHOUSE

	Sheryl P. Walter	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	20 Mar 2014
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